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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سبيل تصد بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

AMMAN, TUESDAY DECEMBER 30, 1980 — SAFAR 23, 1401

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Today's Weather

It will continue to be cloudy with light showers at times. Winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly and calm seas.

	Overnight	Daytime
	Low	High
Amman	5	12
Aqaba	14	23
Deserts	5	11
Jordan Valley	12	20

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 12, Aqaba 23. Sunset tonight: 4:38 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow: 6:38 a.m.

Syrians criticising Jordan again after Damascus slaying

AMMAN, Dec. 29 (Agencies) — The murder of a prominent Syrian political leader has aggravated Syria's dispute with Jordan and Iraq, and diminished prospects of healing a major rift in the Arab world.

Syria stepped up its war of words against its two Arab neighbours after Mr. Darwish Azzouni, a founder member of the Arab Socialist Baath Party, was shot dead in Damascus on Tuesday night.

Syrians immediately blamed the Muslim Brotherhood, an extremist group which has been held responsible for a series of assassinations and bomb attacks directed against the government over the last two years.

The organisation also said to have killed a leading Muslim cleric and a university professor in the Syrian capital earlier this week.

Over a previously unknown group styling itself the Front for the Liberation of Syria yesterday claimed responsibility for the slaying of Mr. Azzouni.

On a long-distance telephone call to a Beirut news organisation, a spokesman for the group said: "We are responsible for the assassination of Darwish Azzouni in Damascus and we declare that, after our patience has run out, we will eradicate all those tyrant leaders in Damascus abusing our Syrian nation, one by one."

At Mr. Azzouni's funeral yesterday, a senior Baath official repeated allegations that Jordan was providing bases for the Muslim Brotherhood and was conspiring with Iraq against Syria.

The late King Hussein has repeatedly denied that Jordan provided aid to the Muslim Brotherhood in Syria. In a recent speech to the National Consultative Council, Prime Minister Mudar Badran said the volume of terrorist activity against the Syrian regime was widespread discontent and not the work of a handful of extremists.

The leader of the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan, Mr. Ahmad Rahman Khalifa, was quoted recently in Middle East magazine as saying: "The Syrians have got everything wrong. The movement here is against us and has provided no camps to help us."

He gave an indication of the tension prevailing in the region today when he imposed restrictions on free travel from most of the Arab world.

These Foreign Ministry sources said they had been informed that, with the exception of Jordanians and Palestinians, all other foreign entry visas to visit Iraq.

Syrian Baath official speaking at Mr. Azzouni's funeral was Ahmad Al Zubi, a member of the party command. He said "American imperialism, Zionism and the regime of King Hussein have turned Jordan into a den for plots against Syria's security and safety, and established training camps for the murder of Syrians."

He said: "The heads of the conspiracy in Amman and Baghdad are broken on the rock of Syrian steadfastness."

State-run Damascus Radio said Syria "will strike at the hideouts of the criminals and murderers wherever they may be."

A Syrian source in effect admitted that the Brotherhood infiltrated Damascus when he said security forces killed seven members of the group in a raid on their hideout in the capital today.

A member was shot dead after exchanging fire with security forces elsewhere in the city, the source added.

State-run Syrian news agency SANA said that the security forces tracked the Brotherhood hideout and a "huge quantity of arms and ammunition was confiscated as well as a number of documents proving the links of the gang with the outside world."

It stated Syrian allegations of Jordanian support for the Brotherhood are a major factor in a tense border confrontation between the two countries last month.

The dispute coincided with sharp differences over Iraq's war with Iran, which Syria has denounced and Jordan has supported.

Mr. Assad said tonight Syria would always stand with the Lebanese people and indicated he might confer shortly with President Elias Sarkis.

Mr. Assad was replying to reporters' questions about his visit to Lebanon. He said "We have bilateral relations and we will continue to develop them."

Mr. Assad delivered a message from President Hafez Assad to President Sarkis and carried a reply with him to Beirut tonight after his one-day visit to the Syrian capital.

He said sources in Beirut said Mr. Wazzan had been planning the one-day visit for some time, but it had been brought forward as a result of renewed clashes between Syrian troops and Lebanese Christian militia forces.

The two sides were observing an uneasy truce today after a week of fighting in the eastern Lebanese town of Zable.

President Assad said: "We in Syria will always do what the Lebanese government considers suitable on the Lebanese scene. Coordination and contacts continue between us on the various current issues."

Asked whether Syria would repulse any Israeli attack on South Lebanon, he replied: "Definitely, we shall confront (such an attack) at any time. Our reply will differ from one place to another, and every situation will be dealt with in time."

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Henry Kissinger talks to reporters upon arrival at Cairo airport Sunday evening. (AP wirephoto)

Kissinger attempts to soothe Egyptian doubts on Reagan

AMMAN, Dec. 29 (Agencies) — Former U.S. secretary of state Henry Kissinger, who is expected to play a role in the incoming Reagan administration, sought today to soothe Egyptian doubts about future U.S. policy.

Standing side-by-side with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat after two hours of talks in the village of Mr. Sadat's birth, he told reporters he could state with absolute confidence that Mr. Sadat would continue to be treated as an honoured friend by Washington.

"He will be received with the hope and intention of building up the closest relationship," he added.

"We have three problems in this area. We have the problem of the military pressure from the Soviet Union, we have the problem of the relationship between the extremist and moderate states and we have... the Arab-Israeli conflict," Mr. Kissinger told reporters in this Nile Delta village.

"All three issues have to be dealt with simultaneously," said Mr. Kissinger.

Mr. Kissinger's election victory last month raised doubts in Cairo about future American commitment to the U.S.-sponsored Camp David peace drive in the Middle East.

Today Mr. Sadat said he had to "work with whomever the American people chose." Asked whether he expected full support from the Reagan administration.

He told reporters: "I have nothing (no knowledge), let us wait and see..."

Mr. Kissinger is on the first leg of an unofficial, five-nation Middle East tour. Today he reported that he and President Sadat shared the same analysis of Middle East problems.

Last night Mr. Kissinger said he strongly favoured Jordan's inclusion in the negotiations. Today President Sadat said he was not ready to give His Majesty King Hussein a part.

The president told reporters he opposed a Jordanian role until after Egypt and Israel reached agreement on self-rule for the 1.2 million Palestinians in Israeli-occupied territory.

King Hussein has steadfastly refused to join the Camp David process. He stressed his position most recently in an interview with the Beirut English-language magazine Monday Morning, in which His Majesty dismissed Camp David as a fruitless approach and repeated his belief that only inclusion of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in negotiations can bring about a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Kissinger's private tour will also take him to Israel, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Morocco. He said he was carrying no proposals but would brief President-elect Reagan's team on his meetings with Middle East leaders.

Mr. Kissinger is scheduled to meet tomorrow with Vice-President Hosni Mubarak and Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali. He would also meet with Defence Minister Gen. Ahmad Badawi before leaving for Israel on Saturday.

"If Iran is to emerge victorious with American help in the war with Iraq, then the inevitable consequences will be Gulf-wide unrest, the kind of unrest that threatens the flow of crude oil exports and undermines the social structure of almost every Gulf country," he said.

Arab states in the Gulf export about 15 million barrels of oil daily, about 40 per cent of the western world's import needs.

The Lebanese independent newspaper Al Nahar quoted diplomatic sources today as saying high-ranking Gulf officials had recently summoned U.S. ambassadors and told them of "their governments' concern over the chances of the United States supplying Iran with arms and spare parts in case of a settlement of the hostage crisis."

But a U.S. embassy official here stressed that no formal warning had been given to his government and a highly placed Gulf Arab official rejected the report as "straight rubbish."

"There has been no formal warning to the U.S. ambassadors in the Gulf states, nor have there been any explicit threats to the U.S. interests should Washington make the unthinkable mistake of supplying Iran with new weapons," said a UAE official.

But he added that "re-arming Iran and weakening Iraq" would be an "insufferable" act.

Arab diplomats here stress their governments' view that freeing the hostages is a short-term goal. "But for keeping the friendship alive with Arab states, a long-term and far-sighted approach is needed that we sincerely hope the United States will adopt," one diplomat said.

Carter's word is all you get, U.S. tells Iran on hostages

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (R) — The United States today rejected Iran's demands for a \$24 billion deposit to end the hostage crisis and said Iran had to be satisfied with the word of President Jimmy Carter.

"The word of the president of the United States is the highest authority that this country can offer. We don't see the need to offer additional guarantees beyond that," State Department spokesman John Trittner told reporters.

Iran demanded the multi-billion dollar deposit to ensure compliance with the president's written pledges to release Tehran's blocked assets and to facilitate court proceedings to return the wealth of the late Shah.

Secretary of State Edmund Muskie said earlier that the deposit demands were unreasonable and beyond the power of the president. The United States offered the written pledges to meet Iran's demands but stressed it would operate in the framework of U.S. law.

As senior U.S. officials held a third day of discussions with Algerian intermediaries on the U.S. response, Mr. Trittner made it clear the next U.S. message to Iran would be very firm.

"We are not changing the basic position as described in the documents we released yesterday," Mr. Trittner said.

"Substantively we are exactly where we can be on this. The Iranians will have to understand what we can do and can't do."

He was referring to Nov. 11 U.S. proposals for ending the 14-month-old crisis which were released in Washington yesterday after Iran issued its version. The two versions were substantially the same.

At the same time, Mr. Trittner said the Carter administration, with only three weeks to go in office, intended to keep the talks going despite the apparent impasse.

"It is clear that we will not abandon the process that we have been engaging in to secure the hostages' release," he said. "We will keep the negotiating channel open."

Mr. Trittner would not give the specific contents of the reply being prepared for transmission to Iran except to say there would be a response and that it would not differ in substance from the previous U.S. position.

A senior U.S. official predicted today's meeting would be longer than previous sessions as the State Department sought a "mechanism that could be productive" in the negotiations.

Algeria's delegation consisted of its ambassador to Iran, Mr. Abdelkarim Gherrah, its envoy in Washington, Mr. Redha Malek, and the chairman of the Algerian central bank, Mr. Seghir Mostefi.

The U.S. response could be ready by Wednesday, when Mr. Malek has to return to Algiers, one senior U.S. official said. But he said this would not be known until later today.

Iran released more film of the hostages, including for the first time pictures of the only black American still held, Mr. Charles Jones of Detroit.

being made for the release of the hostages by "criminals and kidnappers."

Hojatolislam Rafsanjani said today: "I don't know how they can call uncivilised and barbarous the capture of 52 spies who had turned the place that the Islamic republic government provided for them into a centre of espionage and who were busy plotting against the Islamic republic government."

"Reagan has said they will not pay any ransom for the hostages. You dishonourable people, if you are made for the release of the hostages by 'criminals and kidnappers'."

For 30 years you (the U.S.) have taken all our resources and sucked our blood... your prosperity is the fruit of our destruction," Hojatolislam Rafsanjani said.

Accusing the United States of crimes in the Middle East, Africa, Latin America and in Iran under the late Shah, he said: "You thugs have been committing these crimes for centuries in the name of civilisation."

"Any time you wanted to commit a crime you first accused the people of being savage. But there is no one in human history more savage than you, especially the Republican leaders," the Majlis speaker said, according to Pars.

Mr. Reagan, answering reporters' questions in Los Angeles yesterday, said: "...I don't think you pay for ransom for people that have been kidnapped by barbarians."

Mr. Reagan's remark was echoed by his top aide, transition director Edwin Meese, who warned Iran that it could not expect a better deal on the hostages when the new administration takes office on Jan. 20.

"The Iranians ought to think over very carefully the fact that it will certainly be to their advantage in every way to get our hostages back now," he said in a television interview.

Mr. Reagan, asked if his comment was meant to send a message to Iran, said this was not his direct intention, "but if they got a message out of it that they shouldn't be waiting for me, I'd be very happy."

Last Wednesday, he said he was angry that financial demands were being made for the release of the hostages by "criminals and kidnappers."

Iran has demanded some \$24 billion in guarantees for its demands for a U.S. pledge of non-interference in Iranian affairs, cancellation of all claims against Iran and the return of frozen Iranian assets and the wealth of the late Shah and his close relatives.

Hojatolislam Rafsanjani said the Iranian government had a right to ask for a guarantee, adding: "Where in the world have you kept your promises that we should be satisfied with an empty promise and wash our hands of what little we have at our disposal?"

"The world should know that it is in accordance with Islam (Ruhollah) Khomeini's ideas that we intend to solve the problems of the hostages and that it is the United States which is looking for excuses."

Moderating his tone, Hojatolislam Rafsanjani later told his weekly press conference that "we must move rationally, and America should be given time to find legal solutions and investigate the matter in a natural way."

But "if America is not prepared to meet Iranian conditions, the hostages will be tried," as the Majlis declared when it fixed Iran's terms, he said.

"I don't think it is necessary to set a deadline," he said, referring to a call at a mass religious rally yesterday for the Majlis and the government to set a deadline for the release of the hostages.

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Israeli court hears electricity Co. takeover case today

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Dec. 29 (AP) — The Israeli High Court begins hearings Tuesday on the proposed government takeover of the Arab-owned Jerusalem District Electric Company. Opponents say the acquisition would heighten Israeli-Arab tension in the city.

Dayan urges Israelis to stop making 'wild lions out of mice'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Dec. 29 (Agencies) — Former Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan on Friday said that "the same rules which apply to the mayor of Haifa should also apply to the mayor of Nablus. I mean freedom to express their political opinions, whatever those may be."

Recognition of the new state," he remarked. But as long as the Israeli army is the only military deployed in the area, not even a fuel barrel will reach Nablus if Israel does not wish it to — "and that's what counts," he said.

Mr. Dayan remarked that Israel cannot expect West Bank Arabs to oppose creation of a Palestinian state.

"It's in our hands alone," he stated. "In order to function properly, however, we must set a realistic set of priorities. It is imperative that we determine what our vital interests are and leave all the rest behind."

Mr. Dayan asserted that there are only three really important issues: security, both internal and external; the "right" for every Jew and Israeli to buy a house or a plot wherever he wants to, including in the West Bank and Gaza; and to avoid setting up a Palestinian state in the area.

He said that if West Bankers feel like singing Palestinian nationalist songs, let them do so. "Do they want to hoist a Palestinian flag somewhere? That's their business. We cannot go on forbidding these things forever," he said. "Today we bring down a flag. Tomorrow they raise a statue. Tomorrow we forbid the statue. They stage a strike. There's no end."

Mr. Dayan regretted the Knesset's rejection of his "unilateral autonomy plan" which he claimed could have solved a lot of problems.

"I am sure there would also be foreign nations which would rush

The background to the court action is a political struggle over the supply of power to some Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and to the new Jewish neighbourhoods in East Jerusalem, built after Israel occupied the area in 1967.

It also is seen as a symbolic battle over Israel's claim to sovereignty over all of the formerly divided city.

Many Israelis fear the company's Arab owners would sabotage power supply in the West Bank in the event of another Arab-Israeli war. The company supplies current to Bethlehem and several other Arab towns near Jerusalem.

The Arab board of directors is fighting the takeover to preserve what remains of Arab independence under Israeli occupation. Two of the company's directors are city officials and six are mayors of West Bank Arab towns.

"Any political retreat from the decision to acquire the company will signify weakness in an area in which we are most sensitive—the unity of Jerusalem," said an editorial in the conservative Israeli paper *Maariv*.

Al Hamishmar, organ of the Marxist Mapam Party, urged the government to cancel its acquisition plan, and warned the issue would reach the United Nations and the international court. "Sometimes it seems this government tries to instigate international debates on Jerusalem," it said.

The government-owned Israel Electric Corporation, which would take over the company, has assessed its value at \$4 million, according to Israel Radio — presumably the compensation it would offer the shareholders. The Arab-run company says its assets are worth far more, though no exact figure has been given since the affair has not reached the stage

of negotiations over compensation.

An Israeli member of parliament who opposes the takeover, Mr. Yossi Kurid of the opposition Labour Party, says the government is preparing to seize the company's installations, apparently by force, if the court rules in its favour.

It was not clear if the court would hand down a decision Tuesday or adjourn to deliberate after hearing arguments.

The government charges that the East Jerusalem company is inefficient and unable to supply enough current for its 65,000 customers.

"Citizens complain about faulty service, and the company is not connecting settlements within its domain to the electricity mains."

says Energy Ministry's Yitzhak Shomron.

The company argues it has modernised its plant, despite his usual criticism of the government's last year, to company in Arab hands.

Jerusalem Mayor Te is a strong critic of the plan, despite his usual any action under the "unity" — "We think politically bad," he says. "It will cause us we have never seen before is really frightened of."

Ironically, Mr. Kurid first to propose the company provide the demand from new housing in the city's eastern sector.

Israelis oust 37 Jerusalem

AMMAN, Dec. 29 (Petra) — The Israeli occupation authorities served notice to 37 Arab inhabitants of occupied Jerusalem to leave their homes as a preliminary step for the demolition of travellers from the occupied city said today.

The owners of the houses now have seven days to order the travellers said, adding that the measure comes of a policy exercised by Israel to empty Jerusalem and its Arab territories of their legitimate owners prior to its elements there.

Local News Brief

AMMAN, Dec. 29 (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, cable of sympathy to Sultan Qaboos of Oman on the death of his uncle, Prince Tareq bin Taymour. Prime Minister Mawlawi sent a similar cable to Sultan Qaboos on behalf of the government. Another cable of sympathy was sent to foreign minister, Mr. Qais Al Zawawi, by his Jordanian, Mr. Marwan Al Qasem.

AMMAN, Dec. 29 (Petra) — Thanks to a donation from a Jordanian benefactor a scholarship is now available for student to obtain an M.A. degree or diploma in nursing. The announcement by the Arab Orphan Committee, which, donation, said that the chosen candidate would be able to discipline in Britain or in the United States. It also offers the scholarship at its offices in Amman.

AQABA, Dec. 29 (Petra) — A consignment of 5,000 tons of rice ordered by the Ministry of Supply arrived at the port yesterday. A ministry source said that a shipment of 13,000 tons of powdered milk will arrive here on Jan. 3, and one of 13 tons of sugar is also due.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

The Jordanian Artists' Association presents its second exhibition of art works, at the Palace of Culture in Youth City.

The Department of Culture and Arts, in cooperation with the Jordanian Artists' Association, presents an exhibition of art works by Dina Zoubi. The show is open to the public at the exhibition hall in Jabal Luweibdeh, across the street French Cultural Centre.

The Jordan National Gallery presents an exhibition of art works by Suhail Bisharat, at the gallery in Jabal Luweibdeh.

Film

The Goethe Institute presents "Expulsion from Paris" 1977 comedy film will start at 8 p.m. (in German, with subtitles).

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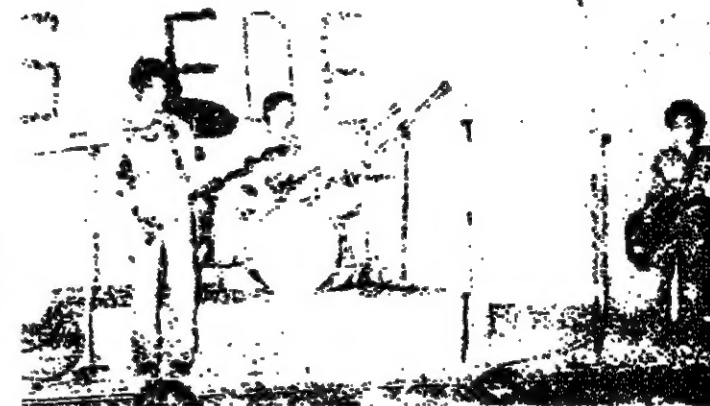
tel. 811616

JD 25 a couple

Artists' Assn. show



AMMAN, Dec. 29 (Petra) — The second annual exhibition of work by members of the Jordanian Artists' Association opened this evening at the entrance to the Palace of Culture in Al Hussein Youth City. The under-secretary of the Ministry of Information, Mr. Peter Salah, opened the exhibition, which will last until Jan. 3.



AMMAN, Dec. 29 (JT) — A performance of Suede, a musical group which includes Naser Abdul Hamid Sharaf and Faris Abdul Hamid Sharaf, the children of the late Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Sharaf, and Nart Yousef Boran, was attended by Mrs. Lella Sharaf and a big crowd this evening. The performance was under the patronage of the director of the Department of Culture and Arts, Mr. Mohanna Durra, the Department of Culture and Arts and the Music and Fine Arts Centre. It took place at the department's theatre.

The Spanish Cultural Centre

Tel. 24049

wishes to announce registration for SPANISH LANGUAGE CLASSES. Registration will take place from Saturday, Jan. 3. Also offered are special classes for children and a new course for adult beginners. Conversational course, and special intensive language course for commercial and business activities.

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Jabal Amman (close to the Spanish Embassy)

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THE BRITISH COUNCIL

JUNE 1981 GCE

Entries are now being accepted in the British Council, Jabal Amman, for the June 1981 GCE. Candidates should bring an official identity document bearing a photograph.

The closing date is Jan. 12



Moshe Dayan

Coffee prices ground down as sugar loses its sweetness

AMMAN, Dec. 29 (Petra) — The price of one kilogramme of sugar today rose by 25 fils to 160 fils, according to a defence order issued by the minister of supply. The price had been 135 fils a kilogramme.

The increase was deemed necessary in view of a rise in sugar prices on the international market, the announcement said. The government will continue to subsidise the price of sugar by 150 fils a kilogramme.

The Ministry of Supply also announced a reduction in the price of ground coffee as of today. Coffee prices will run as follows: 250 grammes of light-roasted coffee will cost 430 fils (down from 480 fils); 250 grammes of medium-roast 460 fils (down from 520 fils); and 250 grammes of dark-roast will cost 470 fils (down from 540 fils).

The reduction in coffee prices followed a price drop on the international market, the announcement said.

Jordan-UNRWA agreement drafted on refugee medical services

AMMAN, Dec. 29 (JT) — A draft agreement between the Jordanian government and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), expected to be put into force in 1981, would allow Palestinian refugees to receive medical services at Ministry of Health centres around the country.

According to *Al Rai* newspaper, the agreement provides for UNRWA to pay JD 150,000 to the Health Ministry to cover such services as laboratory tests, vaccination and specialist services at government hospitals, as well as treatment for the mentally retarded.



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From bad to worse

LOOK OUT, Henry's back! Giving us a foretaste of the nostalgic offerings we might expect from the Reagan administration, which takes office three weeks from today, Dr. Henry Kissinger is back in the Middle East. This trip by the world's most public "private citizen" is strictly unofficial, he assures us. But the fact is that Dr. Kissinger has long been one of President-elect Reagan's closest foreign policy advisers (something which we are tempted to regard as not entirely a bad thing; one doesn't have to share Dr. Kissinger's peculiar *weltanschauung* to perceive that Mr. Reagan could benefit from a broadening of his horizons), and his impressions are bound to find their way back to his latest protegee.

Although Dr. Kissinger's likely role in the Reagan administration is still unspecified, it is not unlikely that it will have something to do with the Middle East. Expectations are high in this region — perhaps too high, one might say — that the new administration will bring a fresh perspective to the question of Middle East peace and priorities. That is why it is disappointing to see the good doctor already reaching into his bag to pull out the tired old prescription of Camp David as the cure to all our ills.

Dr. Kissinger claims to be on a "fact-finding" mission, but he is already dispensing opinions on what should happen next in furtherance of the rickety Camp David framework (of which President Sadat of Egypt will, before long, be the only pillar still standing). One of these offhandedly delivered recipes involves what Dr. Kissinger says he hopes will be the early inclusion of Jordan in the "peace process." This should happen, he says, "whenever we can find a framework."

Dr. Kissinger should know that Jordan's position on this is perfectly clear, and doesn't need reiterating. Since very early on in the U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli talks, and certainly since the Baghdad and Tunis summits in 1978 and 1979, Jordan's stand has been that of all the Arabs: that peace is possible only on the basis of an immediate, total and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied territories, including Arab Jerusalem and that the Palestinians have the right to form and return to a state of their own under the leadership of their only legitimate representatives, the Palestine Liberation Organisation. This position has been put in the most frank and direct way by His Majesty King Hussein on a number of occasions, not least during his visit to Washington last June; most recently it has been endorsed once again by the Amman summit conference last November.

If anything, the conditions endured by the people in the occupied territories since the signing of the Camp David accords militate forcefully — to them, to Jordan, to all Arabs — against any conceivable acquiescence in the Camp David scheme, which is nothing more than a bilateral treaty between Egypt and Israel: the pace of Jewish settlement in the West Bank has intensified; Israel has annexed Arab East Jerusalem and proposes to annex the Syrian Golan Heights as well; the scale of repression against the Palestinian people has heightened dramatically, particularly in the form of attacks and legal measures directed against their elected officials.

If Dr. Kissinger looks carefully (well beyond the vistas presented to him by Mr. Sadat and Mr. Begin), he will see quite clearly that conditions in the Middle East are much worse, on the ground, than they were when he was last in office in Washington. We remain to be convinced that Washington holds exclusive possession of the key to peace; but if the new administration is interested in making a contribution to a true, fair and durable peace, it must first and foremost divest itself of past thinking, past attitudes and past policies. That is why Dr. Kissinger's sudden reappearance in our midst comes as something less than a pleasant surprise.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: The statements made by Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem on his return from the meetings of the Jerusalem Committee recently concluded in Rabat reaffirm the effectiveness of the positive role played by Jordanian diplomacy in defence of the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian Arab people.

It is evident from these statements that Jordan's participation in the Rabat meetings had great influence on the progress of the discussions there, and helped to crystallise a unified Islamic position toward our sacred cause.

The recommendations passed by the meeting, as Mr. Qasem explained, included most of the proposals contained in the Jordanian working paper, which was adopted as a basis for the discussions of the drafting committee.

The adoption of the Jordanian working paper is significant for the following reasons:

- The Palestinian issue has been, and will remain, Jordan's primary cause, which has priority even over the daily bread of the Jordanian citizen.
- Consequently, Jordan is better able than anyone else to commit itself to the interests of the Palestinian people, particularly in view of its principled, constant stand — from which it has never deviated.
- Those who imagine that, by casting doubt on the Jordanian position, they can implement their plots under the guise of protecting the Palestinian cause, cannot deceive anyone. In particular, they cannot fool the Palestinian people.

It remains for us to say that all of Jordan's efforts for the sake of Palestinian rights will endure and be constant, giving regard neither to cheers nor to jeers.

AL DUSTOUR: United Nations files are full of documentation about aggression in the Middle East, and Israel's constant disregard of U.N. resolutions. Perhaps the lack of a unified Arab position is one of the most important reasons which the friends of the Arabs cite, as they face enemy pressure to change their positions, and do not see a unified Arab position serving as a possible alternative to propose in the confrontation with Israel.

The Arabs lack nothing that is needed to achieve an equitable position with, if not a superior one to, that of the enemy. We should cite in this connection our manpower and economic resources, strategic depth and international relations. Above all, there is our national will, which, whenever it comes close to imposing itself, is shattered by the storms of squabbles and disagreements.

Expedition uncovers mysterious remains

Evidence of the Stone Age in the Arabian desert

By Alison Betts

Known, barren and forbidding, the Arabian desert, empty today, bears marks of inhabitants of a distant past in the form of enclosures, hill forts and unusual lithic artifacts. A recent expedition

explored the area. The north Arabian desert, commonly imagined as a vast yellow sand dunes, is in fact made up of a series of low, rounded hills. One of the most spectacular of these is the volcanic basalt which stretches from the Gulf of Oman across Jordan into Saudi Arabia, a barren and forbidding landscape of craters and rocky hills, broken occasionally by patches of white sand.

Like the modern bedouins, man in the desert has always been nomadic, camping for a few days and moving on, leaving little behind to mark his passing save a few lines of stones cleared into rough shelters and windbreaks. The desert floor is strewn with remains of these circles and corrals, some modern, some undoubtedly ancient.

The bedouins, when asked about these walls, tell the inquiring traveller that "these buildings are not of our time... the fathers of our fathers already found them". For the most part these walls take the form of amorphous agglomerations of sub-circular structures, often stretching for a kilometre or so along the edges of wadis and sandflats. Occasionally there are isolated hut circles higher up on the basalt, or clusters of small huts grouped together in a wadi.

Not so long ago, and certainly in the seventh to fifth millennium, the desert was rich in wildlife — gazelle, ostrich, vast herds of gazelle — and one of the main occupations of the desert nomads was, naturally, hunting. To assist them in this they constructed long chains of walls leading to large enclosures. The herds of gazelles in the course of their seasonal migration across the desert were guided by the walls into the enclosures where a massive slaughter took place. To watch for the approach of the game the hunters chose a convenient position on a hill-top with a commanding view of the adjacent wadis and mudflats.

While waiting they would pass the time preparing arrowheads. Their knapping sites, found on many of the hill-tops in the desert, have scatters of blade blanks, double-ended cores and arrowheads with short tangs. These are typical of the seventh millennium aceramic Neolithic period.

These sites saw regular, if only seasonal, occupation, perhaps for three months in a year. However, the precise reason that these people chose to abandon their traditional heritage of nomadic existence escapes us at present. The sites are most common around the large sandflats used today by the modern bedouins for simple cultivation.

Yet the artifacts which these Neolithic people have left us give no indication at all of agricultural activity. There are no querns, grinders or sickles, nor do we have any evidence for hunting — no spears nor arrowheads. We are left with the enigma of the burins. Why so many and to what use were they put?

It does not seem feasible that there was such a high demand for engraving tools. Wood is scarce in the desert, and although the burins could have been used for working bone, it is highly unlikely that so many would have been needed.

An alternative explanation must be sought. The technique of removing spalls from either side of a blade to facilitate the production of a tang for arrowheads is known from a few examples at alternative Neolithic sites. Beidha in south Jordan and Bouqras on the Euphrates in Syria. There are, however, no arrowheads on these desert sites.



An extensive Neolithic complex of hut circles and corrals is still used by modern tribes of bedouins.

The burins themselves, however, have another value. Because they are so distinctive it has been possible to identify sites similar to those in the survey areas as far apart as central Syria, Iraq and northern Saudi Arabia.

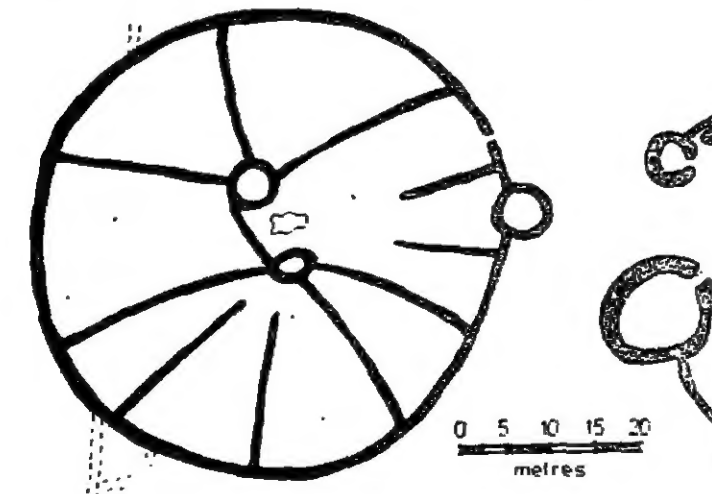
At least there are a few answers to the questions raised by the "burn" settlements. There are other more enigmatic sites about which we can only guess at present. Among these are the "jellyfish", so called because of their unusual shape. They are usually 30 to 50 metres in diameter, consisting of two concentric circles of low stone walling divided into irregular segments by radiating walls. Often huts are attached to the outer circle, and some have quite elaborate entrances.

These sites presumably functioned as extended family units. The enclosure could be defended if necessary, and access was limited by the complex nature of the entrance. The interior divisions could hold animals for the

night and watch could be kept from the small shelters on the outer wall. A similar plan is in use among nomadic pastoralists in Africa today. Because of the transient nature of life in the desert most sites offer little dating evidence and these "jellyfish" are no exception.

However we can be fairly sure that they are early, probably seventh-millennium. Since their walls are extremely eroded, one example contained concave truncation burins but, since the majority produced no burins, it seems likely that this "jellyfish" predated the nearby burin site and was re-used by its occupants.

The desert still contains many "mysterious walls," some as yet undiscovered. However the hints offered by earlier researchers have now crystallized into a new perspective of the desert areas of northern Arabia in the Neolithic period. There is now evidence to say that sometime seventh to fifth millennium BC, nomadic pastoralists, encompassing Saudi Arabia, most of western Iraq and southern central Syria was populated by a coherent semi-nomadic culture hitherto virtually unperceived in this region.



A hilltop knapping site, with a scatter of discarded flints

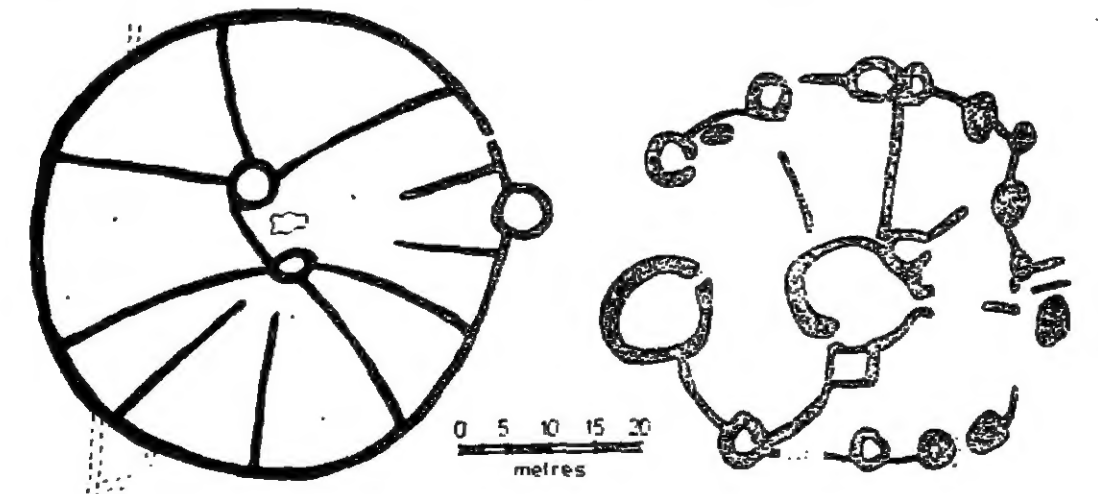
Jellyfish

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Stone artifacts of the Neolithic period.



Diagrams of "jellyfish" in the Qa'a Majalla area.



A hilltop knapping site, with a scatter of discarded flints

"Jellyfish" structures from the air. These sites were fortified and used by extended family units.

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JORDAN TIMES Middle East Monitor

Regional Briefs

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM: Two time bombs exploded in south Israel Monday but there were no casualties or damage, police said. The blasts, at roadside points where soldiers hitch rides from motorists, were near the coastal town of Ashkelon and outside Beersheba. A police spokesman said the bombs appeared to have been set by Palestinian commandos.

TEL AVIV: Egypt's Agricultural Minister Mohammad Daoud met with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin in occupied Jerusalem Sunday on the third day of his visit to Israel for talks on agricultural cooperation between the two countries. There had been speculation in the Israeli press before the trip that Israel might cancel it if Mr. Daoud refused to meet with its officials in Jerusalem. After the courtesy meeting with Mr. Begin, Mr. Daoud was asked whether it is true that Egyptian President Anwar Sadat had agreed to ministers visiting occupied Jerusalem, but not to staying there overnight. He replied smiling: "My wife is in Tel Aviv and perhaps I should be with my wife tonight." Israel Radio reported. Accompanied by his counterpart, Israeli Agricultural Minister Ariel Sharon, Mr. Daoud also met with Israeli President Yitzhak Navon, with whom he discussed philosophy, said Israel's Radio. Mr. Daoud visited the Al Aqsa mosque in the old city before returning to Tel Aviv. His visit is the first by an Egyptian minister not connected with peace negotiations. (AP)

LONDON: A British engineer said Monday he had escaped from a Saudi Arabian jail where he was serving a three-year sentence for alcohol offences. Mr. Ian Fraser, 43, said at his home in Bacup, northwest England: "I'm not prepared to reveal just yet how I got away. The man who helped me is no longer in Saudi and the tools he used are not there either." The foreign office here confirmed that Mr. Fraser flew home on Wednesday from the neighbouring state of Bahrain. A spokesman said he did not know how Mr. Fraser got to Bahrain. Mr. Fraser was arrested on May 5 and charged with making alcoholic drinks. (R)

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Sunday denied an Indian report that it was building an Arabian Sea base for the Chinese navy and furnishing it with U.S.-made equipment. A statement issued by the foreign ministry called "completely false" and a "mischievous canard" the claim by a New Delhi-based news agency called Press Asia International which, it said, was broadcast by an unnamed foreign radio station. In recent weeks, Indian news organisations reported Chinese troops and nuclear warheads were on Pakistani soil. (AP)

MOSCOW: Four Iranians have been released from Afghan prisons after admitting involvement in subversive activities against the Moscow-backed government of Babrak Karmal, according to the official Afghan news agency Bakhtar. Bakhtar, quoted by the official Soviet News Agency Tass, said the Iranians were arrested in Herat province near the Iranian border but gave no further details. Meanwhile, some 120 Afghans arrested for subversions have been released from Kandahar prison to mark the first anniversary of President Karmal's takeover, Kabul Radio said Sunday. The report, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), said they were freed Saturday. The radio said Saturday that 86 political prisoners had been freed in Kabul. It quoted one of those released at Kandahar, in southern Afghanistan, as saying that they all now supported the country's Marxist revolution. Mr. Abdul Jalil Zaland, a former director-general of music for Radio Kabul, has defected to Pakistan with members of his family, according to a Pakistani newspaper. Mr. Zaland, who is a singer, composer and poet, told the newspaper Dawn that he and his family crossed into Pakistan about three weeks ago after it became "humanly impossible for us to live in our country any more." Mr. Zaland said he arrived in Karachi a few days ago from northern Pakistan's frontier province bordering Afghanistan. (R)

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM: Israeli Energy and Communications Minister Yitzhak Mordechai resigned Sunday from the Communications Ministry but said he would retain the energy portfolio, government officials said. Mr. Mordechai announced his intention of quitting the ministry several weeks ago and Prime Minister Menachem Begin accepted the resignation Sunday. Ministry sources said Mr. Mordechai resigned after failing to receive government backing for plans to set up a new authority to deal with postal services. A new minister will be named shortly, the officials said. (R)

ALGIERS: The Algerian military court has jailed three army cadets and two civilians for periods ranging from three to 10 years for plotting against the government, according to a delegate of the International Federation of Human Rights. Mr. Michel Zavrani, who was allowed to attend Saturday's trial held in secret, said the five were charged with political activities connected with the Internationalist Communist Party, a little known extreme left-wing group. Four of the five were arrested in November 1978, together with two other cadets who were later freed and have since been detained again, he said. All those convicted Saturday are in their twenties. He added that one of the convicts, Mr. Rabah Ben Khellat, told the court he had been ill-treated in detention. The sentences ranged from three to six years for those present and one cadet was sentenced to 10 years' jail in his absence. (R)

KOUSSERI, Cameroon: American officials have recovered communications equipment, including secret codes, from the pillaged United States embassy in the Chad capital of N'Djamena, one of them said. The embassy was evacuated in a hurry civil war broke out last March and staff did not have time to follow laid-down evacuation procedures, the official said. Fighting stopped on Dec. 15 when the forces of rebel leader Hissene Habre fled the city, just across the Chari River from this north Cameroon town. United States officials, accompanied by an explosives expert, crossed to N'Djamena last week to inspect the embassy, which is in a part of the city occupied by Mr. Habre's Armed Forces of the North (FAN) during the fighting. The U.S. official said money had been stolen from the embassy safes and that explosions inside the embassy had caused structural damage. Other diplomatic missions in N'Djamena, which were also evacuated in March, have also suffered extensive damage. (R)

TEL AVIV: Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal says that one of the most wanted "war criminals" still at large, Dr. Joseph Mengele, may be about to surrender. Mr. Wiesenthal, head of the Vienna-based documentation centre which tracks former Nazis, said Sunday the 70-year-old former Nazi doctor had been moving from country to country in South America since Paraguay withdrew his citizenship. Mr. Wiesenthal, who is on a visit to Israel, told Israeli Television that nine weeks ago Dr. Mengele was seen in Rio Negro, Uruguay. He has been accused of conducting medical experiments on Jewish prisoners at the Auschwitz and Birkenau death camps during World War Two and of selecting which prisoners went to the gas chambers and which to slave labour. Dr. Mengele was often ill and was suffering from circulation trouble, Mr. Wiesenthal said. "I think he is contemplating suicide, or has decided to give himself up to a West German embassy," he added. Mr. Wiesenthal said mutual acquaintances had informed him Dr. Mengele might decide to surrender. "From them we have learned that he has prepared his defence. He will say in court that all the Jews who came to the camps were condemned to death, and by selecting some for labour, he prolonged their lives." Mr. Wiesenthal said. "I think, without doubt, that he can be caught within 48 hours of learning his present address," he said. (R)

Islamic manuscripts go on show in Bonn

By Jaya Ram

BONN: — Varnished and leather bindings, richly illuminated opening and concluding pages, and an array of script specimens used for writing the Koran and other scholarly works are among the salient displays of a recent Bonn exhibition entitled "A Thousand Years of Islamic Bookcraft".

The exhibition, sponsored by the national library of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation of West Berlin, presented 120 priceless exhibits of manuscripts from the Arab, Persian, Turkish, and Indian cultural realms, works created over a span of time dating from the 9th century to the year 1925 A.D. The foundation drew on its own vast collection of Oriental manuscripts (approximately 60,000 specimens) which are housed in the Oriental section of the National Library in Berlin.

The foundation's collection is, in fact, one of the most important of its kind in Europe, and the exhibits in Bonn reflected the collection's depth, ranging from separate sheets, miniatures and illustrations to medical, astronomical and cosmological texts.

The well-attended Bonn exhibition saw considerable attention devoted to manuscripts from the 13th to the 16th centuries of the Mameluke epoch (1250-1517), the heyday of the art of book-making. Two particularly noteworthy examples of well-crafted bindings were a volume on the chivalric arts (furuusiyya) and "Abu-Lait as-Samarqandi: Al Muqaddima (A Preface to Prayer)". The book on the knightly arts deals with riding, swordsmanship on foot and use of the bow. It's a dazzling manuscript in a black and red Thuluth script and dates from the year 1355 A.D.

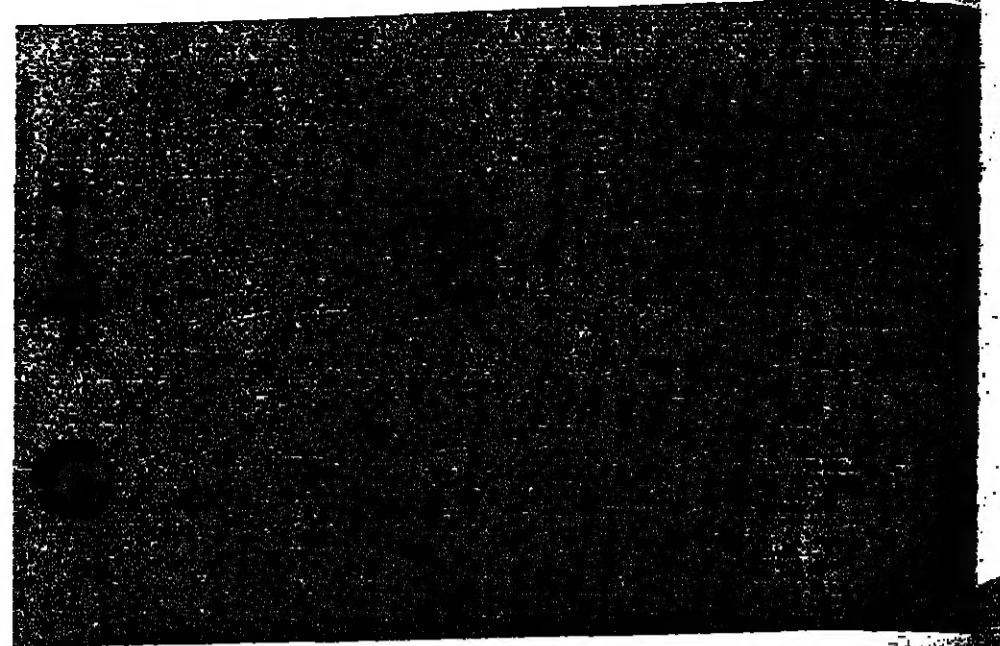
The "Preface to Prayer" is an Arabic manuscript with Turkish annotations between the lines.

This latter work was commissioned by the Mameluke Sultan Abu Al Nasr Qa'itbay (1468-95). Another work commissioned by the Sultan, equal in value to the afore-mentioned creation, is a remarkably ornamented volume which was produced in the years between 1468 and 1476. This Mameluke manuscript contains a poem of praise to the Prophet Mohammad from the pen of Al Busiri (died 1294).

The exhibition catalogue, an excellent compendium prepared with scholarly meticulousness, draws particular attention to the illuminated codex of a Koran commentary dating from the beginning of the 13th century A.D. This codex contains the seventh and final portion of a Koran commentary, along with the text of Suras 49 to 114 and their requisite explanations. This work is the product of the illuminator Muhammad Ibn Al Gauthari Al-Akkaki and the scribe Fadl Ibn Umar Ar-Ra'id, and was completed in 1203. "Splendid through the imaginative and aesthetic powers of its formation," it is considered one of the grand achievements of Medieval Islamic bookcraft.

Conciseness of form and brilliance of the decoration were the principles which guided the exhibitors in their selections. But focusing on a limited cultural and religious sphere, the National Library of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation adhered to an exhibition approach first applied in 1977 with the exhibition "Manuscripts of Southeast Asia". The novel idea proved successful at that time.

Some of the Oriental manuscripts come from the library of the Elector of Brandenburg, which had them in its possession as early as 1668. The foundation acquired others through donations, separate acquisitions, and the purchase of complete private collections. A significant one came to Europe through the hands of a collector who passed through Persia. (INP)



KORAN: an illuminated codex produced by Rihani and Fatt in 1203

Koch hails Haddad as hero

METULA: New York Mayor Edward Koch met Monday with the head of the right-wing militia in southern Lebanon, hugged him and said, "You are a hero."

Mr. Koch's meeting with militia chief Maj. Sa'ad Haddad took place in this Israeli town on the Lebanese border. After chatting with Maj. Haddad and posing for pictures with Israeli troops, Mr. Koch travelled to the nearby occupied Golan Heights of Syria for more sightseeing on his week-long tour of Israel.

Maj. Haddad gave him a multi-coloured map of Lebanon showing where all the various factions in that country's civil war are positioned.

Maj. Haddad controls an enclave of southern Lebanon 18 kilometres long by 5-10 kms wide along the Israeli border, and is armed and backed by the Israelis.

"If I can talk for you, tell me what you would want me to say in New York," Mr. Koch told Maj. Haddad. He replied: "I want to liberate all of Lebanon, and I will do it if I have the military support of the free world."

He accused the Syrian army, in Lebanon to separate the rival factions, of "attacking and arming innocent civilians, not military bases."

Maj. Haddad charged that the Syrians wanted to take over Lebanon, and were backing the Palestinian commandos. (AP)



Mayor Edward Koch

MAMELUKE: the poem to Muhammad, inscribed between 1468 and 1476

American Jews form new group

CHEVY CHASE: Maryland: Some 700 men and women, dissatisfied with existing national organizations for American Jews, have formed a group called the New Jewish Agenda (NJA).

After a three-day meeting that ended Sunday, the new organisation issued a "unity statement" saying it will include Jews from "a variety of backgrounds, affiliations and personal outlooks who share a vision of the meaning and purpose of Jewish life."

The group embraces militant feminism, concern for the environment and ecology, "democratisation of the Jewish community" and opposition to present Israeli policies, including the West Bank settlements.

Bank settlements.

Rabbi Herschel Matt, one of the NJA leaders, said the group was an alternative to such organisations as the American Jewish Congress, the American Jewish Committee and B'nai B'rith.

The statement warned of problems from the incoming Republican administration, which "seemingly is preparing for another era of repression."

The 700 people who met here named an executive committee of 11 men and 9 women to handle the formal organisation of the NJA, which will have a planning office in New York. (AP)

Honecker, Arafat reject Camp David

BERLIN: East German Communist Party chief Erich Honecker met Monday with Mr. Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the official ADN news agency said. Both leaders condemned U.S. "imperialism" in the

Middle East and demanded that Israel withdraw from occupied Arab territories, the report said.

Mr. Arafat arrived in East Berlin more than 10 days ago for hospital treatment of a slipped disc, according to a PLO spokesman in Beirut. The East German report did not mention the hospitalisation, nor did it comment on Mr. Arafat's condition.

"Both sides supported the war of liberation and national rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories against the conspiracy of Camp David and its so-called 'autonomy,'" the report said.

"They condemned the Israeli policy of repression in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories," as well as Israeli raids in Lebanon, ADN said. (AP)

Genscher, Libyan aide hold talks

BONN: Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher on Monday emphasised non-intervention in the affairs of other countries in talks with a leading foreign affairs official from Libya, the foreign ministry said.

In a one-hour talk with Mr. Ahmad Al Shabati, the Libyan secretary for foreign relations, Mr. Genscher "underscored that the absolute observance of the basic rules of non-intervention and the sovereignty of all are indispensable conditions for stability, security and peace," the foreign ministry said.

Libya, one of West Germany's major oil suppliers, is reported to have occupied part of northern Chad and intervened in that country's civil war on behalf of President Goukouni Oueddei. Western intelligence services said Libya supported Mr. Oueddei with arms and troops during the war. Mr. Shabati was not available for comment.

Mr. Genscher also told Mr. Shabati that West German policy on the Middle East remained unchanged since the Venice proposals by leaders of the European Community last summer, the foreign ministry said.

The proposals included recognition of Israel's right to secure borders and a voice for the Palestinian people in any settlement talks. (AP)



Mr. Erich Honecker



Mr. Yasser Arafat

Bangladeshis' bodies to be flown home from Lebanon

DACCA: The bodies of two Bangladeshis killed while fighting for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) against Israeli forces will be flown home Tuesday, the PLO representative in Dacca said Monday.

Mr. Ahmad Abdul Razek told a press conference that the two fighters had died while defending South Lebanon and the Palestine revolution on Dec. 18.

Mr. Abdul Razek said the PLO office in Dacca received scores of volunteers every day seeking to join the Palestinians, and that the two men in question were among 50 Bangladeshis who enrolled a year ago.

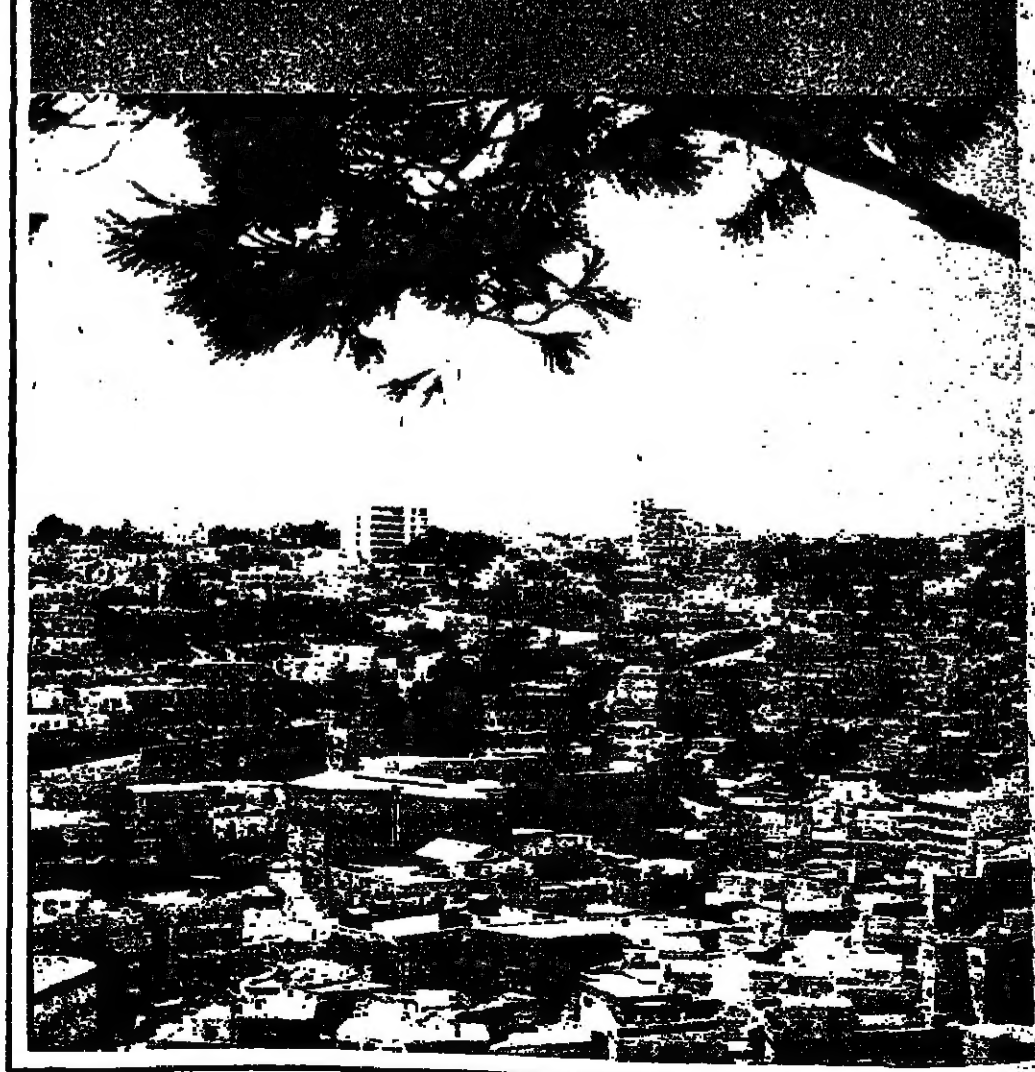
He said the PLO has sought permission to raise its office in Dacca to embassy level. (R)

British expert injured in Kuwait

FUWAIT: An army explosion expert was seriously wounded by an explosion in his home, it was announced officially here Monday. A local newspaper, *Al Rai Al Aam*, said the victim was a British expert attached to the Kuwait army, but official sources refused to identify him. An interior ministry source said the explosion was an accident. (AP)

Good morning, Amman!

Eight pages of news in the Jordan Times



Ringing in the New Year, Dutch-style

The chimes they are a-changing

ONE who walks around a Dutch town will come to realise music plays an important part in Dutch life.

only will you probably cross one of the famous organs, but you may also cheerfully come across a group of bells whose resounds throughout the

carillon is an unusual musical instrument, which was centuries ago in the and south of the Netherlands the bell itself is much older than the art of bell-making. The art of bell-making developed very some 1500 years ago. The bell's only function means of communication. The sound of the bell called together, told the time and warning of war or fire. Finally people learned to shape of the bell evolved reason over the centuries. Ringing together several bells possible to achieve a musical

17th century the art of the under reached a peak in the lands. During this period, was for the Netherlands a

golden age in both the economic and the cultural sense, the Hemony brothers in particular achieved such purity in the relationship between the bell's fundamental frequency and overtones that the carillon gained acceptance as a fully harmonic musical instrument.

A full-scale carillon generally has a range of between three and five octaves, which means that it comprises between 36 and 60 bells, which the carillonneur plays by means of a hammer keyboard and foot pedals.

Lost art

During the 17th century many Dutch cities acquired a carillon as it in mutual rivalry, but strangely enough interest in this musical instrument disappeared in the next century so that much of the art of carillon-making was lost.

Happily, in this century interest has revived and since the Second World War in particular this old craft has begun to flourish again in the Netherlands. In the process the business of Koninklijke Eijsb-

outs in Asten has expanded to become one of two large bell foundries in the Netherlands.

Eijsbouts casts bells with diameters of up to 2.1 metres and a weight of 5.4 tons. Just as in the old days each bell is still given a name and marked with the date and ornamental border. Eijsbouts has acquired a major international reputation with its carillons, particularly because of their great purity of tone.

Carillons

Eijsbouts specialises in carillons which are to be used as proper musical instruments, although it also produces small carillons, which can play four different melodies by means of an electronic system.

Naturally the large carillons may also be made with an electronic system so that a melody sounds at fixed times even when the carillonneur is not present. In the past automatic playing equipment was also used, although that worked mechanically.

In addition to casting new bells for the Netherlands and other countries the company also restores peals of bells and carillons of historical interest, such as those made by Hemony.

Astronomical clock

As in the case of carillons the art of manufacturing astronomical clocks has disappeared in the course of time. Koninklijke Eijsbouts is probably the only company in the world to have started making them again. Eijsbouts was already a maker of tower clocks and in the course of restoration work on bell-towers sometimes came across ornamental time-

pieces and moving figures which in earlier times often accompanied a carillon.

Eijsbouts' first astronomical clock, which is now partially complete, is intended for the National Carillon Museum in Asten. On the face, which is painted with symbolic figures, it is possible to read the local solar time, civic time, the sun's position in respect of the horizon, the phases of the moon and the age of the moon in days. The zodiac rotates round the

clock face in a sidereal day. This makes it possible to read the position of the various signs in the sky.

A small sun on the sun dial traverses the zodiac over a period of one year, thus indicating which sign the sun is in. The moon's position in the sky is also to be found in the sign of the zodiac.

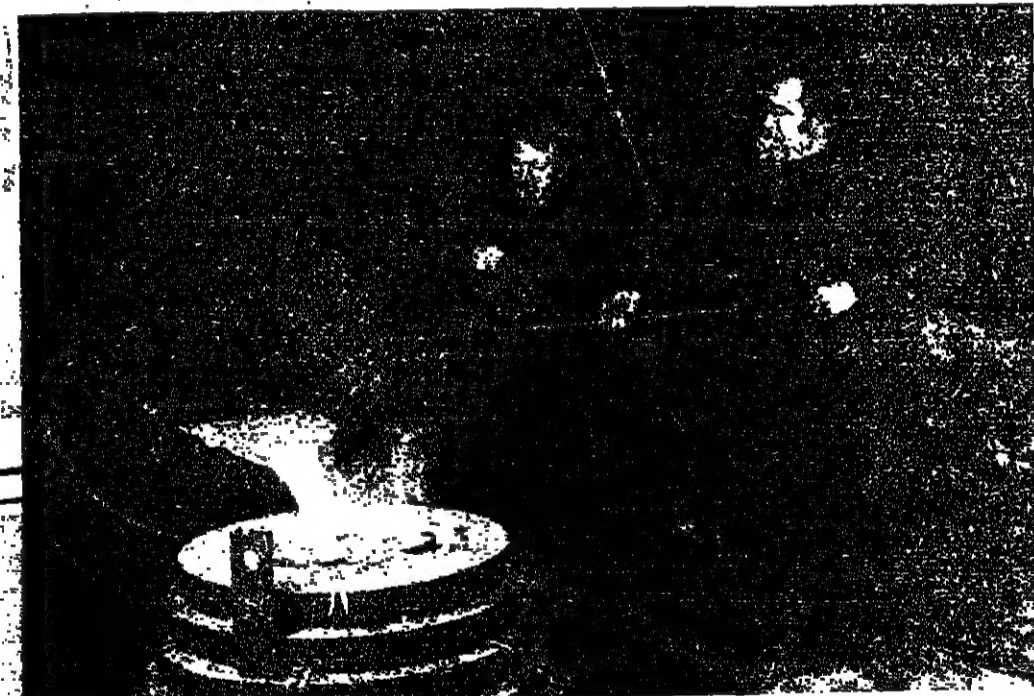
This clock also incorporates moving symbolic figures and a carillon with 42 small thin-walled bells. It operates on the basis of traditional mechanical systems, an

ingenious unit with a large number of cogwheels. The painting of the clock face and the design of the various figures are being carried out by contemporary artists. Eijsbouts was already maintaining regular contacts with various artists, for the design of ornamental borders for bells and as a result of the casting of bronze sculptures in the bell foundry.

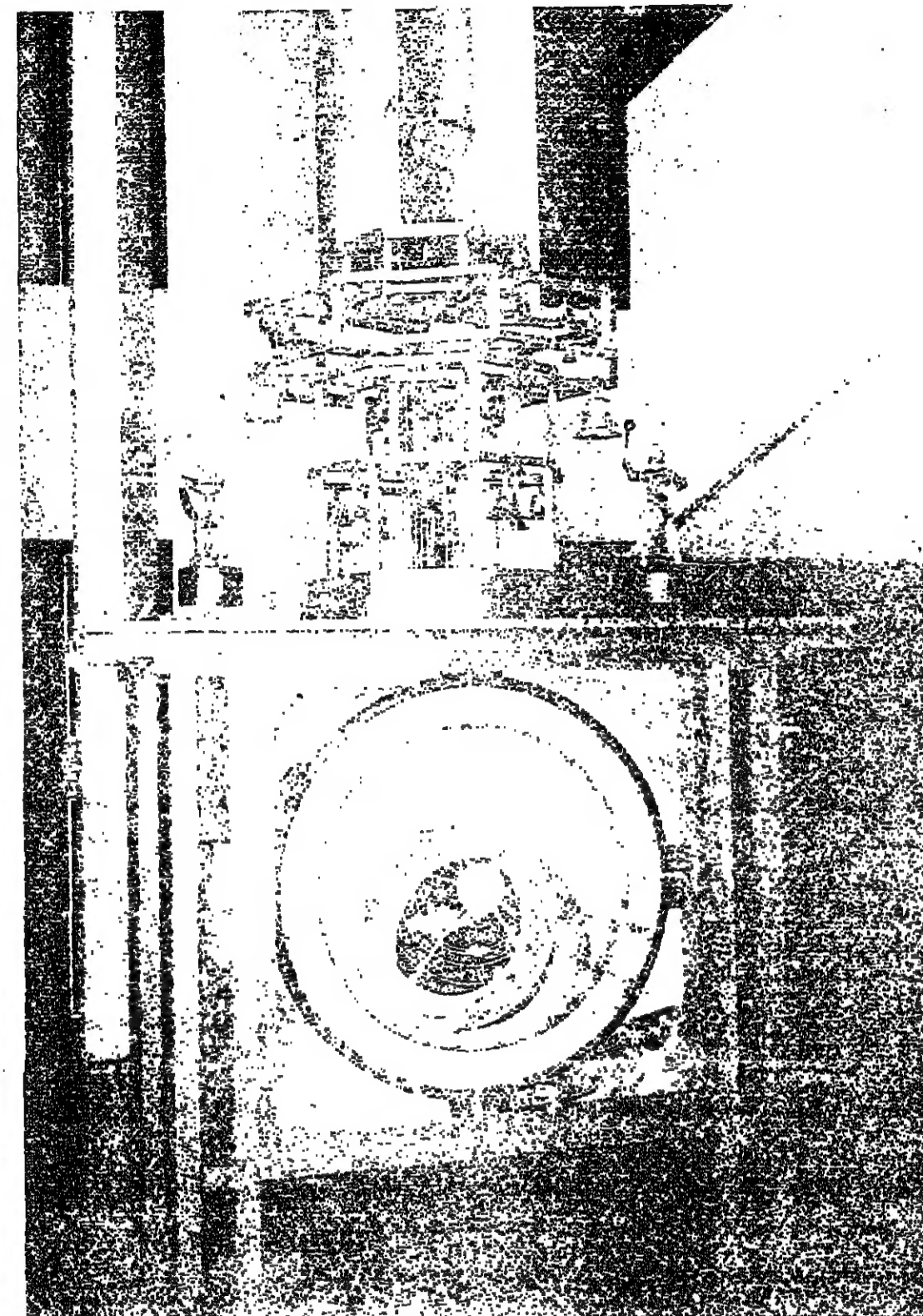
-- Reprinted from *Holland Quarterly*.



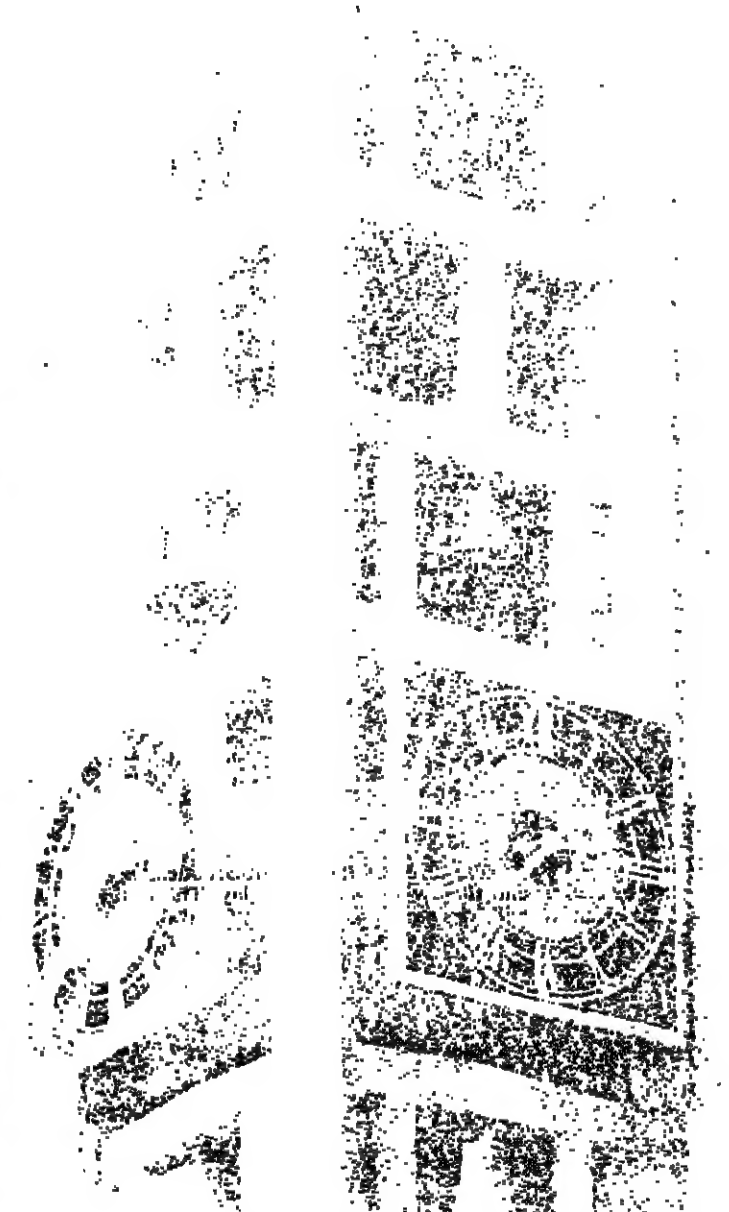
Decorative borders and text are applied in wax to the bell model. Usually each bell is given its own name.



The casting process



The first part of the astronomical clock being built by Eijsbouts for the National Carillon Museum in Asten



Carillon in a modern tower

tall story about Chinese schoolgirl

AGE 16, 2.4-metre (7-foot 10½-inch) Tseng Chin-lien not worry about finding a husband some day. She is about getting enough to eat.

She and her family, who live on an island commune in a in China's northern Hunan province, also are used to coming and looking in the windows of their home. They say that some days there are hundreds.

China's *Health News* ran a picture and a short article about Miss Tseng in October, saying that at 2.35 metres (7 ft 8½ inches) she was taller than the tallest girl in the *Guinness Book of Records*.

Her measurement was taken in 1978, her family says, she now is 2.4 metres tall.

Guinness lists Sandy Allen, 2.31 metres (7 feet 7 inches), Elkhartville, Indiana, as tallest.

Miss Tseng, who weighs 147 kilograms (324 pounds), been resting at home since her recent graduation from high school because she suffers from diabetes, her father told a recent visitor.

Her father, Tyud Hsien-mao, 42, and mother, Yu Hsien-mei, 38, one brother and two sisters are of normal

height. They say the local government takes care of her food, clothing and other expenses of about 1,000 yuan (\$670) a month, including more than 300 yuan (\$200) in medical expenses.

An average urban Chinese worker makes about 60 yuan a month, and peasants generally receive less.

Asked if she was worried about finding a husband, Miss Tseng said, "I'm not worried about it at all. I'm only worried about food and enough to drink and books to read."

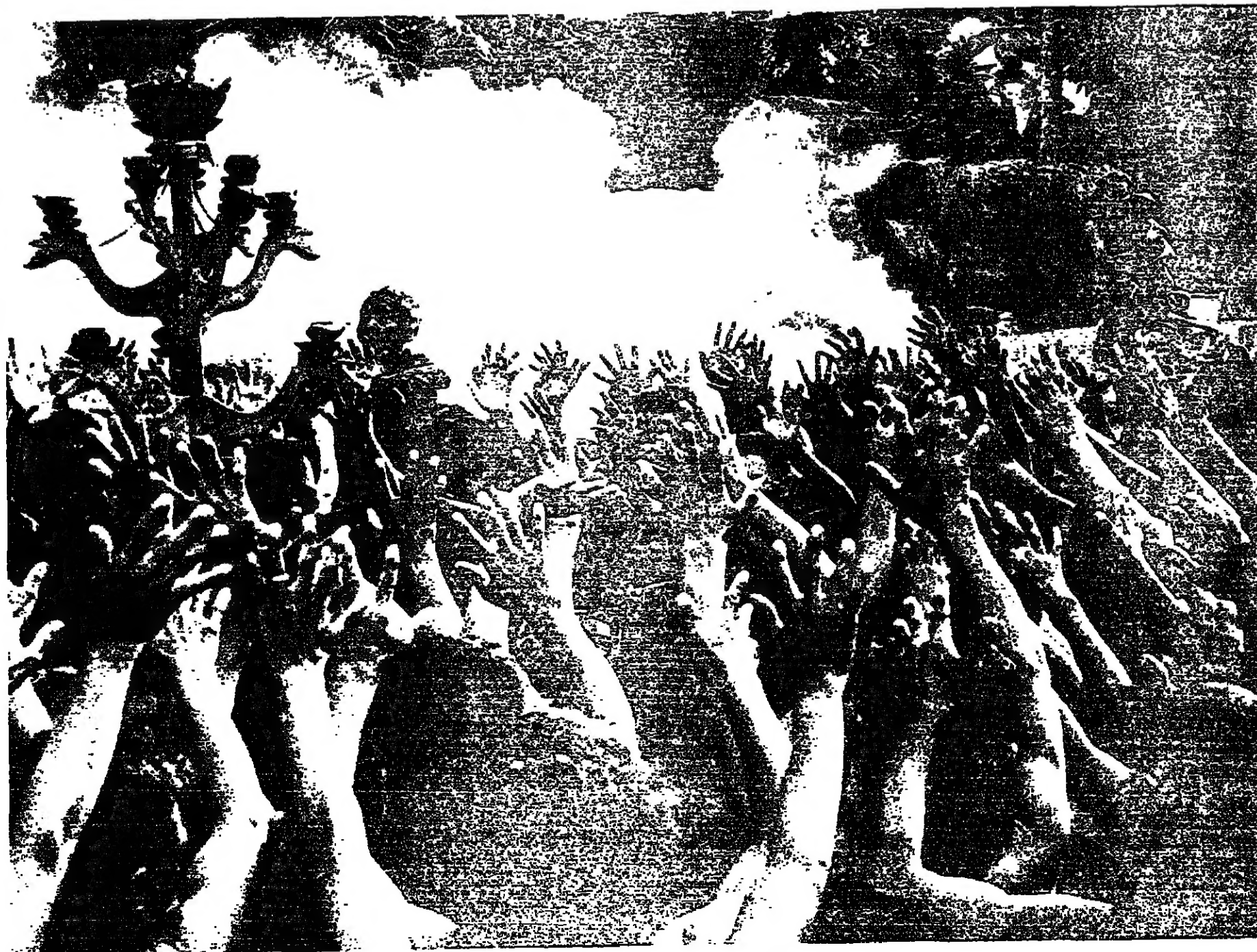
Her father said the government would take care of her education.

Miss Tseng eats 20 dumplings for breakfast and six bowls of rice each at lunch and dinner. A favourite food is fish. She lives in her commune's lake, the Big Dongtinghu, about 40 kilometres north of Changsha.

She reads such books as *How To Be a Good Person*, and she has a specially built high stool at which she works. Her mother told her to chop vegetables. Her bed is 2.6 metres long and 1.2 metres wide.

A Hunan rubber factory makes shoes specially for her. (AP)

East meets West on Bonn stage



Ritual Balinese dances were among the presentations staged in Bonn this summer.

FOR FOUR weeks this summer, the "International School of Theatre Anthropology" made its home in Bonn, the West German capital.

While there, the institution, which seeks to portray fundamental human behaviour in theatrical situations, examined dances of Bali and other Oriental stage styles and techniques.

The School Director is Eugenio Barba of Italy, who is also the head of the Denmark-based Odin-Theatre and the Inter-Scandinavian Theatre Laboratory, and the School itself moves from country to country to make its quest better known in the world.

Next year, for instance, it will conduct classes in Italy. The heart of the Bonn encounter involved the theoretical and practical meeting of Far Eastern and European theatrical styles and techniques. The programme brought together 54 participants from 22 nations in a school, with East and West roughly equal in representation.

They included actors, scholars, theatre directors, dancers and producers. The exchange of knowledge was their aim. In addition, there were a number of presentations of Oriental theatre on the stage of Bonn's Kulturforum, with admission open to the public. There were ritual Balinese dances (see photo), as well as samplings of the traditional theatrical achievements of India, Japan and China.

The performers were at the same time instructors in Barba's School. The funding of the School's Bonn sojourn was no less international than the casting; contributors included the city of Bonn, the North Rhine-Westphalian secretariat for joint cultural activities, the German UNESCO Commission, Denmark's ministry of education, the Japan Foundation, and the foreign ministries of the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Italy.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, Dec. 29 (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at the close of trading on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets today.

One sterling	2.3640/50	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1885/88	Canadian dollar
	1.9550/9600	West German marks
	2.1310/60	Dutch guilders
	1.7670/7720	Swiss francs
	31.52/62	Belgian francs
	4.5300/5400	French francs
	936.00/938.00	Italian lire
	206.40/70	Japanese yen
	4.3690/3740	Swedish crowns
	5.1780/1830	Norwegian crowns
	6.0500/1000	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	590.00/591.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, Dec. 29 (R) — Gold mining shares were lower in thin trading following the decline in the bullion price. Dealers said. Elsewhere, leading equities tended firmer in quiet trading with the FT index up 2.3 at 469.2 at 1500.

Among heavyweight gold producers AM Gold, Harties, Randfontein, P Brand and P Steyn were between 100 and 400 cents lower. Lesser priced issues were around 75 cents easier, dealers added.

Industrial leaders were generally between 2p and 4p firmer though Guest Keen rose 7p to 150p on buying in a thin market. Government bonds drifted lower in thin trading with little interest noted, dealers said. Some longer dated issues were as much as 4p point lower though most falls were limited to 1/4 point, they added.

ICI, Marks, Courtaulds, BAT Industries, Glaxo and Plessey each added 2p while ICL and Hawker Siddeley were up 4p apiece. GEC and Fisons dipped a penny against the trend.

Oils were mixed with a firmer bias, with Tricentrol and Ultramar gaining 10p apiece while BP was down 4p at 422p.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

U.S. dollar	307.00/309.00	French franc	68.10/68.50
U.K. sterling	731.30/735.70	Dutch guilder	145.00/145.90
West German mark	137.90/138.90	Swedish crown	70.30/70.70
Belgian franc	174.30/175.20	Belgian franc	98.20/98.80
Italian lire		Japanese yen	
(for every 100)	33.30/33.50	(every 100)	147.80/148.70

Gulf states desire economic integration

KUWAIT, Dec. 29 (AP) — Saudi Arabia's finance minister was quoted as saying here today there was a growing desire among Arab Gulf states for their economic integration.

Such a development would lead to the emergence of an important financial and currency centre, the minister, Sheikh Mohammad

Abal Khail, was quoted as saying in an interview with the newspaper *Al-Siyassah*.

The Saudi minister was quoted as saying that foreign investment in the oil-rich Gulf states should be confined to industries requiring sophisticated know-how and capital.

Oil-related industries should be left to the producing states "in view of the low cost of production in these spheres and the availability of raw materials," he was quoted as saying.

Sheikh Abal Khail was also quoted as saying the Saudi government has yet to reach a decision on whether to start mining

gold. "A gold mine has been in existence in the country for a long time, but gold production has been deemed economic only in the wake of the sharp increase of the price of gold on the world market," he was quoted as saying.

Sheikh Abal Khail was quoted as saying that the rate of inflation in Saudi Arabia was 7-10 per cent.

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

Name of Company	Par Value	Number Traded	High	Low	Closing Price
Islamic Bank 50%	JD 1.000	3,819	1.780	1.780	1.780
Jordan Kuwait Bank	JD 1.000	6,750	2.330	2.320	2.320
Jordan Gulf Bank	JD 1.000	3,738	1.670	1.660	1.660
Housing Bank	JD 1.000	1,325	2.060	2.060	2.060
Arab Investment Bank	JD 1.000	100	1.730	1.730	1.730
Industrial Development Bank	JD 1.000	500	1.500	1.500	1.500
Bank of Jordan	JD 5.000	120	14.350	14.350	14.350
Arab Bank Co. Ltd.	JD 10.000	20	120.500	120.500	120.500
Arab Financial Foundation (Jordan) 80%	JD 10.000	100	11.500	11.500	11.500
Al Ezdihar Insurance Co.	JD 1.000	1,000	2.300	2.300	2.300
General Insurance Co. (New)	JD 1.000	210	1.440	1.440	1.440
General Insurance Co. (Old)	JD 1.000	100	1.530	1.530	1.530
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1.000	700	2.050	2.040	2.050
Arab International Hotels Co.	JD 1.000	510	0.940	0.940	0.940
Arab Investment and International Trading Co.	JD 1.000	500	0.850	0.840	0.850
International Construction and Investments Co.	JD 1.000	2,877	0.850	0.850	0.840
Cattle and Poultry Co.	JD 1.000	3,000	0.700	0.700	0.700
Dar Al Sha'b for Press and Publications	JD 1.000	800	0.930	0.930	0.930
Arab Development and Investments Co.	JD 2.000	200	1.300	1.300	1.300
Jordan Dairy Co. (New)	JD 1.000	1,300	1.290	1.290	1.290
Jordan Dairy Co. (Old)	JD 1.000	1,260	1.320	1.320	1.320
General Mining Co.	JD 1.000	415	1.510	1.510	1.510
Arab Aluminium Industries Co.	JD 1.000	3,150	1.210	1.210	1.210
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Co.	JD 1.000	2,974	3.460	3.450	3.450
Arab Chemical Detergents Industries Co.	JD 1.000	1,550	2.810	2.800	2.810
National Steel Industries	JD 1.000	6,470	1.940	1.930	1.940
Dar Al Dawa Development and Investment Co.	JD 1.000	275	3.500	3.500	3.500
Jordan Worsteds Mills Co.	JD 1.000	400	2.850	2.850	2.850
Jordan Ceramics Industries Co.	JD 1.000	50	1.260	1.260	1.260
Jordan Glass Factories Co.	JD 1.000	350	0.800	0.800	0.800
Jordan Spinning and Weaving Co.	JD 1.000	1,735	0.800	0.800	0.800
Jordan Lime and Silicate Bricks Industries Co.	JD 5.000	500	5.700	5.690	5.690
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Co.	JD 5.000	43	28.100	28.100	28.100
Rafia Industrial Co.	JD 5.000	200	2.850	2.850	2.850
Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co.	JD 5.000	1,586	9.100	9.070	9.100
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing Co.	JD 10.000	30	14.000	14.000	14.000
Jordan Cement Factories Co.	JD 10.000	115	19.400	19.400	19.400

Total volume of shares traded on Monday, Dec. 29, 1980: JD 106,560
Total number of shares traded: 48,772

Economic News Briefs

Arab Latin Bank to double capital

KUWAIT, Dec. 29 (AP) — The Arab Latin Bank will double its capital to \$81 million. Board Chairman Abdul Wahab Al-Jarrah said yesterday.

The bank, which operates in Latin America, is owned by a group of Arab banks and engages in financing regional development projects. Formed in 1978, the bank also invests in revenues in Middle Eastern projects.

UAE, Bangladesh pledge cooperation

DACCA, Dec. 29 (R) — Bangladesh and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) pledged to cooperate in oil and gas exploration and study the possibility of undertaking joint ventures in other mutually beneficial projects in Bangladesh.

India to seek foreign investment, loans

PARIS, Dec. 29 (R) — India is to encourage foreign investment and seek external loans for major economic development projects. Indian Finance Minister Ramaswami Venkataraman said in an interview published here today.

Mr. Venkataraman was quoted by the monthly business publication *Danielle Hunebelle's International Letter* as saying India's borrowing capacity was very much higher than its debt.

He said foreign investments would include such projects as steel complex and an ammonia gasification and fertilizer plant.

S. Arabia affirms holding oil price at \$32

BANGKOK, Dec. 29 (R) — Saudi Oil Minister Ahmed Yamani has said Saudi Arabia intends to hold its price for oil at \$32 a barrel at least until the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) meeting starts on Jan. 25.

Saudi Arabia announced that it had raised its price from \$32 a barrel during an OPEC meeting in Bali on Dec. 23. But a subsequent pricing agreement among the 13 members appeared to leave the Saudis free to go up to \$34 a barrel.

Western oil analysts, noting that Saudi Arabia accounts for nearly 45 per cent of total OPEC output, said the doubt about pricing aims for the first half of 1981 had been among the uncertainties hanging over the world oil market following OPEC's Bali agreement.

Reagan to introduce extreme economic measures

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (R) — Mr. Ronald Reagan will introduce a comprehensive economic programme soon after taking office as president that will include stimulative tax cuts and "extreme measures" to reduce government spending, his top adviser said yesterday.

Transition Director Edwin Meese said President-elect Reagan would dwell on the serious state of the economy in his inaugural address on Jan. 20 and would introduce his plan for dealing with the situation.

As part of these economic measures, he said, Mr. Reagan was considering a meeting with Mr. Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board (Fed) either just before or after his inauguration to discuss the issue of stabilising the money supply.

Asked on CBS television programme "Face the Nation" if this would be interfering with the board, Mr. Meese said: "There's no reason why people with authority in a particular field can't talk about how they can best handle the situation."

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Al-Ahram Stores (Aqaba)	2244	Remal Restaurant (Aqaba)	4747
Magenta House		Samir Amis Restaurant (Aqaba)	5505
Petra Bazaar (Aqaba)	3729	Al-Baba Restaurant (Aqaba)	3801
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Police commando team saves 19 seized by Italian prison rebels

TRANI, Italy, Dec. 29 (R) — A specially trained police commando force today stormed the top-security prison here and liberated all 18 warders taken hostage by urban guerrilla detainees last night, police said.

Only minor injuries were reported in the operation launched 24 hours after more than 70 prison inmates, led by Red Brigades guerrilla Franco Piccione, staged the revolt.

As police landed from helicopters and others rushed the jail from the ground, seven loud explosions and bursts of machine gun fire were heard.

Eyewitnesses said they saw clouds of tear gas billowing from the prison complex.

Ambulances sped with sirens screaming through the main gates, where scores of relatives and other people waited for news.

Police said they regained full control of the huge prison complex and that the detainees were back in their cells.

Hospital officials said 21 people were injured in the operation, none of them seriously. Most of them were warders suffering from shock and abrasions.

The operation appeared a major success for the Italian government, which had been severely criticised for its decision on Dec. 26 to close down the Asinara top-security jail off the Sardinian coast.

The decision to phase out the Asinara jail, where many guerrilla leaders had been held, was made after the left-wing Red Brigades kidnapped Rome magistrate Giovanni d'Urso on Dec. 12.

The Red Brigades called for the jail to be closed as one of the conditions for freeing Mr. d'Urso, the magistrate in charge of transferring prisoners to maximum security jails.

Prime Minister Arnaldo Forlani said the decision was taken before the Red Brigades demand had been received.

Police sources said the guerrillas in Trani had also linked their revolt to the d'Urso kidnapping.

They claimed that in addition to the hostages in the jail they were holding another "outside."

The rebels, barricaded into two wings of the five-year-old prison, had asked that food and newspapers be sent in, electricity restored and for the right to hold a news conference, according to a senator who met for more than an hour with the spokesmen.

Sen. Gaetano Scamacio, a socialist from nearby Bari, said the rebels were prepared to release the one guard wounded when the revolt erupted but feared that police would use the occasion to storm the prison.

Since Christmas, outbreaks of unrest have erupted at three other Italian prisons for persons convicted or awaiting trial for terrorist acts.

Prison sources said the Trani prisoners were demanding the closing of all 10 maximum security jails in the country and the abolition of a law that enables police to hold terrorist suspects up to 48 hours without trial.

Officials who had been negotiating with the convicts had earlier reported that the rebels had dressed the hostages in prison clothing to confuse police in the event of a raid.

Officials said the rebel convicts, believed to include several members of the Red Brigades and its ideological ally *Prima Linea* (Front Line), had been aided in negotiations with prison officials after the takeover by a local lawyer they brought in last night.

Newspapers also said among other prisoners being held in the prison are Mr. Corrado Alunni, a reputed leader of *Prima Linea* and Red Brigades terrorists Luciano Ferrari Bravo and Giuliano Nania. Mr. Bravo and Mr. Nania were convicted on charges on forming an armed group, but recent investigations also implicated them in the 1975 murder of Genoa prosecutor Francesco Coco.

The maximum security wings of the prison are under the direct control of Gen. Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, the Carabinieri general in charge of anti-terrorist operations throughout northern Italy.

1981 Japanese budget fails to meet defence target sought by U.S.

TOKYO, Dec. 29 (R) — The Japanese cabinet today approved an austere national budget which failed to meet U.S. hopes on defence spending to counter a Soviet military buildup in the Far East.

The draft allowed for a 7.61 per cent rise in defence spending over the fiscal year 1980, which ends next March, far short of demands from Washington and the Japanese defence establishment for an increase of about 10 per cent.

The cabinet accepted the budget, which goes to parliament

next month, after a week of debate in the conservative ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) over the finance ministry's initial draft which would have raised spending on defence by only 6.7 per cent.

The finance ministry said the final draft held government expenditure for fiscal 1981 at 46,790 billion yen (\$225 billion), a rise of 9.9 per cent.

The increase, the lowest in 22 years, was designed mainly to reduce massive deficit financing through national bond issues.

The major alteration in the government draft was on defence spending, which was increased to 2,400 billion yen (\$11.5 billion)—the world's eighth largest defence budget—from the 2,380 billion yen (\$11.1 billion) envisaged by the ministry.

Government sources said it allowed for the purchase of two U.S. C-130 transport planes, a 4,500-ton missile destroyer, six Japanese-made short-range surface-to-air missiles and a 2,900-ton destroyer, all of which were excluded from the finance ministry's plan.

The sources quoted Defence Minister Joji Omura, who said earlier this month he could not be held responsible for Japan's security unless defence spending was increased by 10 per cent, as saying that the 1981 budget improved prospects for completing the ministry's five-year defence plan ahead of schedule.

The United States has increased pressure on Japan to do more to protect itself, especially its shipping lanes, in view of the Soviet military buildup in the Far East, the Iranian crisis and the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

Slaying ends holiday truce in Ulster

BELFAST, Northern Ireland, Dec. 29 (AP) — Gunmen shot dead a part-time soldier late last night ending a Christmas truce in the troubled British province, police reported.

The Irish National Liberation Army, a mostly Roman Catholic guerrilla organisation, claimed responsibility for the slaying of Mr. Hugh McGinn, 47, also a Catholic and a part-time member of Britain's Territorial Army reserve.

A father of five employed as a washing machine repairman, Mr. McGinn was gunned down when he answered a knock at the front door of his home in Armagh, 48 kilometres south-west of Belfast, police said.

A number of gunmen were involved and several shots were fired in the 11 p.m. incident. The assassins escaped in a car.

The INLA claimed responsibility in a telephone call to the British Broadcasting Corp. The motive for the shooting was not immediately known.

The attack came hours after the leaders of Ireland's churches inaugurated a special week of prayer for peace at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Armagh, not far from the murdered man's home.

Cardinal Tomas O'Fiaich, Catholic primate of Ireland, said he was "horrified" by the killing and urged that the peace prevailing over Christmas should not be shattered by further violence.

Mr. McGinn's slaying was the first reported since Dec. 10 when a member of the Ulster Defence Regiment was murdered, although a 52-year-old woman wounded in a guerrilla ambush on Dec. 9 died in hospital yesterday.

Junta forces claim encirclement of 15 Salvadorean rebels

SAN SALVADOR, Dec. 29 (R) — Government troops have surrounded a 1,500-strong left guerrilla force which advanced into El Salvador from mountain refuges on the Honduras border days ago, army sources said today.

A member of the army garrison in the department of Chalatenango said the guerrillas were encircled near the town of Dulce Nombre de Maria, 160 kilometres north of San Salvador, after nearly 24 hours of fierce fighting.

El Salvador's Defence Minister, Col. Jose Guillermo Garcia, said earlier that the army had checked the guerrilla advance. He said the guerrilla column was made up of Cubans, Panamanians, Nicaraguans, and Salvadoreans.

Official sources said it also contained militants from the five major guerrilla groups which make up the Democratic Revolutionary Front.

The front's leader, German Cienfuegos, recently announced that preparations were underway for a final offensive against El Salvador's ruling civilian-military junta.

Army sources said the guerrillas and their fighters, known as the *Comandantes*, were killed in the fighting at Dulce Nombre de Maria.

An army spokesman said guerrilla groups are trapped in several towns in Chalatenango but not named by the army.

He said the troops were wiping out the guerrillas up the area which had hideout for insurgents.

The guerrilla army northern El Salvador, the biggest offensive since the overthrow of El Salvador's president, Gen. Roberto Romero, in Oct.

Human rights sources estimate that 9,000 people have died since the political violence began.

Jiang forcibly remove following court outburst

PEKING, Dec. 29 (AP) — Shooting "I am prepared to a widow of Chairman Mao Tse-tung disrupted her trial and was dragged out of court, Chinese sources said. A sector demanded she be sentenced to death."

Jiang Qing, 67, reviled the court during her defence, yelling "It is right to rebel" and "Making revolution is not a crime." She was ordered to leave after her outburst, but refused.

She was hauled out by bailiffs in front of 600 spectators, the Official accounts did not mention Jiang's tirade, but a sector Jiang Wen urged the court to sentence her to death.

Today's testimony was the final and most explosive by Jiang before the court hands down verdicts and sentences of her and nine other disgraced radicals.

Kampuchea emergency relief effort scheduled to end on Wednesday

BANGKOK, Dec. 29 (Agencies) — A 15-month-old international emergency relief effort for Kampuchea will end on Wednesday, it was announced here today.

The \$500 million joint operation of the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), one of the biggest and most complex in history, has achieved its fundamental

the "landbridge" feeding operation from Thailand, today's announcement said. This has been credited with saving countless Kampuchean lives.

The joint operation began in October, 1979, when famine and fear drove hundreds of thousands of Kampuchean to the western border with Thailand. Tens of thousands still live in squalid border camps while about 150,000

Kampuchean relief in 1981 and possibly two years while ICRC would medical assistance, provide food and tracing of victims.

UNICEF said there is a "dramatic improvement" in the situation since 1979. Kampuchea was "devastated" by the survival of a large population was in doubt.

At a recent meeting governments which had the Kampuchean relief major U.N. agencies lined a programme for 1981. \$63.6 million have been and donor governments shown reluctance to contribute.

UNICEF said that of aid both to Kampuchea and Thailand-Kampuchean, essential since there was of a tragic relapse into chaos of 1979.

The estimated 771,000 metric tons of being harvested are not fully meet food needs, although it is more the rice crop of 1979.

ICRC sources note level of nutrition is improving but that there is a weak medical infrastructure must continue to rely on provided drugs.

It is estimated that one doctor for every 10,000 inhabitants and one nurse every 5,000.



Bearing the Red Cross insignia, relief trucks arriving at the Army-appraised refugee camp in Thailand as part of the 15-month old international relief effort

objective of setting the Kampuchean people on the road to recovery, UNICEF said.

But it stressed that U.N. agencies, including UNICEF and the World Food Programme (WFP) as well as the ICRC would continue to provide food and agricultural aid, though on a reduced level, to "consolidate the fragile recovery now underway."

UNICEF will continue to run are housed in U.N.-run holding centres in eastern Thailand.

The relief effort also aided about 200,000 Thais affected by the Kampuchean upheavals and provided more than 250,000 tonnes of food, mostly rice, as well as seed, fertilizer, vehicles and medical and educational supplies.

The news release said UNICEF would continue to be the "lead agency" in the U.N. system for

Extortionists demand \$1 million to halt Australian store bombing

SYDNEY, Dec. 29 (R) — Extortionists have demanded 1 million dollars (\$1.17 million U.S.) in cash, gold and diamonds to call off a bombing campaign against the Australian Woolworths store chain, police said today.

Army bomb disposal teams today used a robot to remove an unexploded time bomb from a store at Liverpool, west of Sydney.

But three other bombs have exploded at Woolworths shops in the last two weeks. One went off minutes after thousands of shoppers and staff had been evacuated from a big store in the centre of Sydney on Christmas Eve.

The Australian chain is locally owned and has no connection with the F.W. Woolworth company in the U.S., Britain and other countries.

Police said earlier that an extortion note had been received today. But later, they said it was sent to Woolworths before the Christmas Eve explosion.

It contained a threat of bombings during trading hours and a shorter warning period before blasts if the company did not hand over 1 million dollars in

low-denomination notes, loose diamonds and bullion, police said.

The letter also contained a codename: a company could distinguish genuine warnings from hoaxes. It was signed "Mr. Dunmore," a 250 sticks of gelignite were stolen from a car earlier this year.

A police spokesman said four identikit pictures had been released although it was possible they were of the same man.

These were based on descriptions of two men seen acting suspiciously before the Christmas Eve blast and of men who delivered extortion letters to Woolworths a year ago and last October.

The October letter threatened that food stores would be poisoned if \$800,000 (940,000 U.S.), the biggest reward in Australian history, information leading to the arrest of the bombers was not received.

Woolworths has offered \$250,000 (293,000 U.S.), the biggest reward in Australian history, information leading to the arrest of the bombers.

It has also stepped up security with private guards and electronic devices at its 256 shops in New South Wales.

Pakistan ready for Afghanistan dialogue but recognition requires Soviet withdrawal

HONG KONG, Dec. 29 (AP) — Pakistan's Foreign Minister Agha Shahi called today for immediate negotiations under United Nations auspices to set a timetable for withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

He said Pakistan will recognise the Soviet-backed regime of Afghan President Babrak Karmal "once there is a settlement and Soviet forces are withdrawn."

He added: "We have made it clear that recognition will follow Soviet withdrawal."

Mr. Shahi, who is en route to Pakistan after a four-day visit to China, said the main stumbling block to a political settlement in Afghanistan has been the Afghan government's demand for direct negotiations with Pakistan and Iran.

He said Mr. Karmal repeated this offer of three-way direct talks yesterday.

Direct negotiations, he said, would imply recognition "and legitimisation of a government set up through foreign intervention."

"If there is recognition at once, there is a legitimisation of the regime and a legitimisation of the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan," he said. "Then, what else is there to negotiate?"

In negotiations under United Nations auspices, Mr. Shahi said, Pakistan would ask for a timetable for Soviet withdrawal. He said he

would expect the Soviet Union to demand guarantees against "what they call outside interference."

"We have offered repeatedly to offer these guarantees, but we are not in a position to seal the border which extends for 2,250 kilometres. So this must be acknowledged," he said.

Mr. Shahi reiterated Pakistan's pledge of non-interference in Afghanistan, noting that his government has sought friendly relations with Mr. Karmal's two Soviet predecessors, Mr. Noor Mohammad Taraki and Mr. Hafizullah Amin. But he noted that they came to power through internal military coups — not by the interference of 85,000 Soviet troops as Mr. Karmal did.

On other issues, Mr. Shahi said: "The Islamic nations do not believe the issue of the 52 American hostages being held in Iran can be resolved by the use of force."

"and any further attempt of a military nature by the United States will make it difficult for the Islamic countries to maintain their good relations with the United States. They're bound to condemn it."

We think the present exchanges should continue although progress

is slow...because we are quite convinced this problem will be solved," he said.

— Pakistan is hoping for a "more even-handed attitude" from the administration of U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan on the purchase of military supplies. "We should be given the same opportunities and rights to purchase equipment as other countries," Mr. Shahi said.

— Iran and Iraq remain "far apart" on ending their war, which began last September. He said the Islamic conference which will hold a summit conference next month will continue the search for "an honourable and peaceful solution."

— Security in the Gulf is the concern of the countries of that region and cannot be ensured "by the intrusion of the military presence of the superpowers nor its division into spheres of influence or the establishment of an open condominium."

— There has been no increase in Chinese military assistance to Pakistan, but India is engaged in "a massive rearmament" including the purchase of 200 Jaguar aircraft which can be used against Pakistan and "a massive arms deal with the Soviet Union" at bargain prices.

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In a speech to the foreign correspondents club, Mr. Shahi said the latest United Nations resolution calls for U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to institute a political dialogue between Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan.

He said the next step in the search of a peaceful solution to the Afghan crisis should be appointment of a special representative by Mr. Waldheim — or a visit by him

ing representative democracy, 16 years after a military coup overthrew the leftist government of President Joao Goulart.

President Joao Figueiredo, the fifth former army general to rule the country since 1964, told a year-end gathering of military leaders that their role had evolved to a position apart from the political process.

"With the process of political opening, we are fulfilling a fundamental obligation of the (1964) revolution," he told the leaders of the 273,000-member military forces. "The armed forces now are returning to the exclusive...role

of censorship and much arbitrary security activity.

The group also permitted a return to direct elections for governors and senators in 1982 and may even permit an opposition majority in the nation's congress, presently controlled by President Figueiredo's Government Party.

The latter has said there will be no direct elections for president when his term expires in 1985. It is likely that any prospective appointee, even a civilian, would need the approval of the military-backed leadership.

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President Figueiredo is flanked by the country's top military and civilian leaders at his inauguration in March last year.

Interviews with government sources, political analysts and informed foreign observers found a solid belief that the government, while restoring many personal liberties, is still guided by military-dominated decision makers who show little sign of